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APPLICATION OF

WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY **CASE NO. PUE971024**

For approval of a Pilot Delivery Service Program

and

APPLICATION OF

WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY CASE NO. PUA980005 and WASHINGTON GAS ENERGY SERVICES, INC.

For authority to engage in certain affiliate transactions

HEARING EXAMINER'S RULING

May 8, 1998

Pursuant to Commission Order for Notice and Hearing dated February 12, 1998, the Application of Washington Gas Light Company for approval of a Pilot Delivery Service Program, Case No. PUE971024, was set for public hearing on May 18, 1998, and a procedural schedule was established for the filing of prepared testimony and exhibits.

On May 7, 1998, Washington Gas Light Company ("the Company"), by counsel, filed a Motion for Extension of Procedural Schedule requesting a two-week extension of the date for filing rebuttal testimony in Case No. PUE971024 from May 8, 1998, to May 22, 1998. In support of the motion, Company states that the Staff Report, filed on April 28, 1998, recommends, among other things, that the proposed program be modified to exclude Washington Gas Energy Services, Inc. ("WGES") from participation in the pilot. The Company opposes this recommendation. Counsel represents that currently the Company and the Staff are in discussions to attempt to achieve a mutually acceptable resolution of this issue. To permit the continuation of these discussions, the Company requests a two-week extension of the filing date for rebuttal testimony which would also necessitate an extension of the hearing date.

Good cause having been shown, I find the Motion for Extension of Procedural Schedule filed by the Company should be granted. Accordingly,

IT IS DIRECTED:

- (1) That the filing date for Company rebuttal in Case No. PUE971024 is hereby extended from May 8, 1998, to May 22, 1998;
- (2) That the public hearing currently scheduled for May 18, 1998, shall remain on the Commission's docket for the purpose of receiving statements from public witnesses; and
- (3) That the evidentiary hearing is hereby scheduled for June 8, 1998, at 9:00 a.m. in a Commission courtroom.

Deborah V. Ellenberg Chief Hearing Examiner